

AMANS UPDATE

August 2017



**REGISTRATION FOR
THE FALL
CONFERENCE IS
NOW OPEN!**

Registering for the Fall Conference

<https://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/event/2017/AMA-Fall>

Register for our Fall Conference TODAY! If you register before **September 8th** you will receive the early-bird rate. We have an agenda filled with enjoyable educational sessions, fabulous speakers, and countless opportunities to network. We hope to see you there!

IT'S A NEW WORLD: CATCHING UP TO THE FUTURE

SEPTEMBER 26TH – 29TH

THE HOLIDAY INN

TRURO, NS



Our opening keynote, Warren Macdonald, has a message for you: <https://youtu.be/TGYpipeXKQs>

The Program

The sessions in our Fall Conference program are relevant to all municipalities across Nova Scotia. The detailed promotional program can be viewed on our website <https://amans.ca/fall-conference.html>

Our 2017 Fall Conference is held in Truro, NS at the Holiday Inn. If you have not booked your room yet we have a block of rooms available at the Holiday Inn. You can reach them by calling (902) 895-1651 and referencing the Association of Municipal Administrators to receive our group rate, which includes breakfast. Overflow is available at the Comfort Inn.

Long Service Awards



Long service recognition nominations are now open. **The deadline for submissions is September 11th, 2017.** Please submit all nominations to ajeffer@amans.ca and indicate the name and the years of service for the individual. Criteria for the long service award can be found on our website <https://amans.ca/fall-conference.html>.

Early Bird Draws

If your municipality would like to donate for the Early Bird Draws, please email ajeffer@amans.ca. Early Bird Draws will be collected at the registration desk. Please ensure your municipal unit's name is on the item so we can appropriately recognize you.

AMANS UPDATE



Diversity & Inclusion Toolkit



HR Council has released a toolkit that you may find valuable in relation to diversity in the workplace. This toolkit provides guidelines around inclusive language to use with employees. Take a look at their toolkit to find ways on how you can make your municipality more inclusive in its language.

<http://hrcouncil.ca/hr-toolkit/diversity-language-guidelines.cfm>

8-Week Total Body Transformation Challenge

Starting in September, the AMA Wellness Program is putting together a challenge that will help you become happier, healthier, and more productive as an employee. The challenge runs from September 11th until November 5th. You can register a team of 4 online [here](#). For more information please email Rebecca at rkolstee@amans.ca.

Municipal Building Officials Training



The AMA Board has written to the Province regarding the difficulty municipalities are having in attracting qualified building officials. The Board believes that building official training needs to be sustainable and responsive to the needs of municipalities across the Province. Many years ago, a working group on code education was formed by the NS Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Fire Marshall's Office (subsequently moved to Municipal Affairs) to review the process. AMA had a representative serve on that Committee whose mandate was to undertake a review of the current legislated and regulatory requirements for persons to be appointed as a municipal building official. An interim report was released for consultation to municipalities in December 2014. Representatives from DMA will be attending the September AMA Board meeting to give an update on the implementation of the recommendations and discuss steps to be taken to ensure there is a clear path towards certification for building officials from other jurisdictions, as well as improvements in the process of certification, both for those with experience in the building trades, and those who are employed by municipalities but are in the process of training. We will continue to update you on this issue.

Wellness Awards

The AMA Wellness Awards nomination applications are now being accepted! If you missed the webinar on how to apply the information can be found on our [website](#).

The 3rd annual Workplace Wellness Awards will be handed out at the Fall Conference on Wednesday September 27th.

Deadline to apply is September 1st. Submit your inquiries and nominations to Rebecca, wellness@amans.ca



The AMANS Record Manual is currently under revision. A new version will be released soon. Stay tuned for the new release!

AMANS UPDATE



Legalization of Marijuana

Back in the Spring, the AMA and UNSM partnered with NS Health Authorities and hosted a one-day symposium on the legalization of marijuana. Discussions focused on the impacts the legalization will have on our communities and municipalities. This prompted the AMA and UNSM to write a letter, co-signed by both Presidents, asking for municipal representation on the Provincial Cannabis Working Group. Minister Mombourquette has responded with an invitation for the AMA and the UNSM to join the provincial working group. In addition, the AMA and UNSM are forming a committee with representatives from law enforcement, HR, planning and administration to address the issues and impacts to municipalities.

AMA Governance Review

The AMA Board will be undertaking a governance review. It has been ten years since the AMA has reviewed its governance model and by-laws. The governance of an association must correctly reflect the organization. A governance review may determine changes that need to be made to increase efficiencies and to become more responsive to member needs, make volunteer service more meaningful, and increase nimbleness needed to respond more fully and promptly to environmental changes.

AMANS and Provincial Procurement

The AMA is working with NS Procurement to create a greater link between the Provincial Procurement Department and NS Municipalities. We have had initial discussions, and from these discussions some of the ways we would like to improve this relationship is through:

- Providing contacts
- Information regarding internal trade agreement
- Procurement Newsletters
- Training/Webinars
- Providing information around what is available to municipalities and accessing the provincial portal for standing offers

MUNICIPAL WEBSITE VENTURE PARTY

OCTOBER 20, 2017

SAVE THE DATE

PUBLIC ARCHIVES, HALIFAX NS

MWV Partners
Fee: \$0

Non-Partner
Fee: \$45

Join your municipal colleagues for a day to have a discussion on technology trends, current challenges, and to learn about writing content for your website.